Le 25 février dernier, Trevor P.B. Most, se voyait décerner la Bourse d'État Magna pour le Canada, d'une valeur totale de 10 000$, pour s'être mis dans les chaussures de notre premier ministre canadien le temps d'une analyse.

Trevor figurait parmi les dix finalistes régionaux retenus par un échantillon de juges indépendants dans le cadre du concours national où les participants devaient répondre à la question suivante: "Si vous étiez premier ministre du Canada, que feriez-vous pour améliorer le niveau de vie et l'unité du pays?". Auto réellement, 600 étudiants canadiens ont soumis leurs propositions. Dix d'entre eux ont été sélectionnés selon leur région respective et ont reçu une bourse d'une valeur de 5 000$, remise par le président de Magna International Inc., Mrs. Frank Stroanch.

Mrs. Stroanch est à l'origine de ce projet. Son principal objectif visait essentiellement à stimuler de nouvelles idées et à encourager l'initiative des jeunes Canadiens. Chacun des dix finalistes a donc eu l'occasion de résumer l'essentiel de sa vision sur le réseau d'information Global. Les conclusions de leurs réflexions sont, depuis, en vente chez les meilleurs libraires.

Le caractère particulier de ce bouquin de 235 pages repose donc sur l'optimisme des candidats, qui ont su identifier les problèmes réels, mais ont surtout formulé des solutions. Certaines de ces propositions demeurent très idéalistes ou trop naïves; d'autres ont déjà été avancées dans les médias. Mais en général, les espoirs de ses étudiants sont des espous constructifs, et réalisables dans la mesure où le climat politique de Ottawa se décide à coopérer.

Généralement, ces jeunes sympathisent avec le maintien des programmes sociaux. Ils tendent, dans plusieurs cas, de dresser une analogie entre la gestion de l'État et celle des entreprises privées. Plusieurs remettent en questions le leadership canadien, et tous portent un clin d'œil particulier à leur pays. Ce livre fournit donc un éventail intéressant d'idées à débattre.

Le récipiendaire de la Bourse d'étude nationale, Trevor, résiste le besoin immédiat de réformer la méthode de taxation et l'infrastructure canadienne actuelles. Il observe que les objectifs à long terme sont de collectivement absents. Cela s'explique par les changements souvent drastiques de gouvernement qui, à la suite d'une victoire électorale, s'affaire plus souvent à restructurer et reformer les initiatives et acquis d'un gouvernement précédant, plutôt que de les poursuivre ou de les améliorer. L'analyse également que la seule motivation des partis politiques demeure la réélection de leur parti. Bref, il constate un manque flagrant de continuité et de cohésion au sein de l'État.

Il propose par conséquent un modèle électoral gradué, où les Canadiens, réunis selon leur région en quarte groupes électoraux, auraient à élire sur une base annuelle quatre niveaux de gouvernement; ce qui assurerait la... (cont'd on page 3)

---

Dawn Palin et Ed Gillis, les recent GCSU President- and Vice-President-elect.

---

Researchers denies possibility of human testing

Erich B. Squair

TORONTO (CUP) — Officials at the University of Toronto are checking into allegations that one of their researchers is heading to China to conduct medical experiments on human subjects without university approval.

In early February, the Toronto Star reported that physiology professor Andrew Sun intended to conduct experiments on humans in China, bypassing Health Canada approval for use of human subjects in research.

"We are checking into this with the leadership of the faculty of medicine," said Patrick Gutteridge, assistant to the vice-president of research at U of T. "As long as Dr. Sun holds an appointment at U of T he is bound by U of T policy. He must submit a human subject review research that is acceptable to the university."

Sun made headlines last fall when he successfully transplanted insulin-producing pig cell islets into diabetic monkeys, paving the way to a possible "cure" for insulin injections. In a November article, Sun told a U of T student newspaper that he was seeking approval to begin testing on humans.

Following publication of the Star article, Sun denied the paper's claims, saying the story was a fabrication. "I would appreciate it if you don't write anything," he said.

Concerns have been raised that Sun may be attempting to take advantage of the Chinese government's lack of regard for human rights, possibly resulting in research on prisoners or on subjects who have not given informed consent.

"We are talking about responsibility here," said Donna Nipp, a member of the International Coalition for Human Rights in China, and the Chinese government has not shown a lot of responsibility to human rights, possibly in research on prisoners or on subjects who have not given informed consent.

"If a country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.

Transplanting animal tissue into humans is a relatively new area of research, and the risks include the transmission of diseases from animals to humans. Bernard Dickens, a medical ethicist with the U of T faculty of law said moving a study to another country may have serious medical consequences.

"If country was really concerned about it's people, it would not so readily grant that kind of permission without having a thorough understanding of what is going on and what the possible consequences could be," she said.
Many students have been told in the classroom that if the Principal's Vision is allowed to take hold, then there would be no future for Glendon. What with the rough waters over which Glendon is navigating right now, it seems we need a clear cut vision of a future for Glendon which doesn't include the Seymour Schutlch School of Business.

Seymour Schutlch is the businessman who donated $15 million to York University for a business school. And though only hearsay, it has been mentioned that Susan Mann, president of York University, once said upon seeing Glendon, that this campus would make a fine site for an MBA programme. This was a couple of years ago. Needless to say, spurred on by the provincial government, York has turned the heat on Glendon. We have been told, in no uncertain terms, that we must improve our instructor to student ratio and that we thought that we already had a good one.

From a student's standpoint, we do. With classes which often have less than 20 students, and sometimes less than 10, from the student standpoint, we have one of the best teacher/student ratios of any university in Canada. But this is not good from an administrative standpoint. For it means that the university is paying out the same salary to the professor whether she has 12 students or 500 a hundred. Therefore, it makes good administrative sense to cram more students into a class rather than less.

From that standpoint, an administrator's, it makes no sense whatever to have classes with fewer students rather than more. So this is not being done at any point. At this point, it behoves us to point out that at University of Toronto, Introduction to Psychology is a first level course, often has more than 2000 students enrolled, and personal contact with the instructor is literally nil. The class sizes at York Main are often so large that analogous courses of study down here are looked upon with resentment and envy for having so few students. The goal for Glendon, therefore, according to the Administration up at Main, is to be more like them. To harmonize class sizes here with those there...

It is agreed by all commentators that we have a full blown enrolment crisis on our hands, but as well, we have a retention crisis happening. Many students don't stay to complete their degrees here, opting for something in some way more suitable to their plans in life. Is this problem going to be ameliorated by course and program changes such as Ryerson and DeVry have proven themselves to be successful at this so why not follow suit? At the same time we must emphasize that I do think that a liberal arts education should remain an option for those who wish to have one. Another issue which I would briefly like to address is that of spending cuts. Firstly, I do pay my own nation and like many students I'm finding it more and more difficult to scrape up that kind of money each year. I am also of the belief that indeed education should be our government's number one priority. On the other hand, we should consider ourselves to be lucky.

After all, students in the U.S.A. have to come up with about twenty thousand dollars if they want to go to university out of state! The people to blame for the phenomenal costs of education spending and every other area that is currently being affected are the baby boomers. They are the ones who wanted it all and got it all and now WE are paying for their greed. Try telling your parents that and I guarantee that they will react as mine did by blaming ours in return.

Sincerely,
Laurie B.

Attention Readers
Several editorial positions remain available at Pro Tem for 1996/97.

Several positions are now available. Call 487-6736 for further information.

Deadline for submissions
Heure de Tömbee
Thursday, March 14 at 5:00pm.
Le jeudi 14 mars à 17h00.
TORONTO (CUP) — University administrators deny that tuition fee increases are responsible for a drop in applications to Ontario's colleges and universities.

Applications this year are down 1.3 per cent from last year's numbers. But not all school saw a drop in applications.

A little over 12 per cent more graduating high school students expressed interest in attending Ontario's Carleton University, nicknamed "Last Chance U" due to its significantly lower entrance requirements.

Despite the overall provincial drop, U of T president Robert Prichard says this is good news for his school.

"The numbers are very encouraging for U of T," said Prichard. "We are likely to achieve our enrolment plan and [as a result] are likely to raise our academic standards in numerous programs as a result of the increase."

Following the publication of the leaked figures in the Globe and Mail, the Council of Ontario Universities (COU) circulated a warning memo to presidents which said: "It is unfortunate that the caution to keep these statistics confidential has been ignored but if we don't try to control the fallout we can look forward to stories after story on tuition fees killing attendance."

The council maintains that there is no relationship between tuition level and demand for university degrees, and have lobbied the province for substantial hikes in tuition for the last several years. But Heather Bishop, chair of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) Ontario component, disagrees with the council's stand.

"For the COU to try to cover up the figures means they are ignoring a lot of the problems," she said.

Applications to both the University of Ottawa and Ryerson Polytechnical University fell 5.5 per cent, and the University of Western Ontario experienced a decline of 2.8 per cent, including a drop of more than 20 per cent at its main campus, King College.

And although the overall dip in applications was consistent with the lower number of students graduating from the province's high schools, the discrepancy between the institutional figures cannot be explained by demographics.

Though university presidents and economists alike are reluctant to make a direct link between tuition and enrolment, following the provincial government's first mini-budget Nov. 29, many in the education sector predicted that the twenty per cent jump in tuition would at the very least put a damper on student enrolment.

And Bishop says the preliminary application numbers for those institutions with students in southern Ontario suffering the greatest impact.

"The stats for U of T are up, while the numbers in other regions are lower — evidence that students are forced to go to the closest universities and live at home," she said. "Students in the north will not be able to experience [southern Ontario], and vice versa."

But Lakehead University president Robert Rosehart, whose university experienced a 5 per cent increase in the number of applications, says he believes the quality and scope of the program offerings go far in explaining the institutional variance.

"Every year there is opposition to increase tuition, but every year the enrolment also rises," said Rosehart. "But I think if you have to have the right program mix, the [application] numbers will go up."

Demand for Trent University degrees went up overall by 2.3 per cent from last year, while 14 per cent more students named institution as their first choice. The rise follows a decrease in Trent applications of five per cent a year ago.

According to Trent president Leonard Connelly, the challenge to this institution is maintaining high school students' interests in Trent since students who applied did so before the November funding announcement.

"For Trent, and for all institutions for that matter, we need to do it to maintain the interest of those students" by making sure to rechannel money from the tuition increase into student aid programs, he said.

And while Connelly says it is necessary for his institution to increase tuition the full 20 per cent, he will be recommending to his governing body that all other fees for such things as student services and residence be frozen.
Lors de cette conférence, la vision de développement international de Calmeadow, par l'entremise de prêts de petite envergure, a été présentée aux étudiants. Calmeadow assiste différents groupes ou communautés à travers le monde dans la création ou l'amélioration de leurs petites entreprises. Certains prêts de quelques centaines de dollars seulement ont ainsi permis à de nombreux petits entrepreneurs de pays en développement d’augmenter considérablement leurs revenus, eux qui luttent par la suite utilisés pour la construction de logis, l'éducation des enfants... De nombreux exemples furent cités, démontrant l’immense contribution que peuvent avoir de tels prêts, en restant à l’écoute des réalités et besoins quotidiens des communautés. Imaginez une femme du Bangladesh qui fabrique des paniers en osier, qu’elle vendra au marché local afin de nourrir ses enfants. Ce Ile-ci doit acheter ses paniers et sa会展中心 nécessaire à crédit puisqu’il lui est impossible d’économiser une partie des revenus générés par la vente de ses paniers. Le vendeur d’osier réclame donc un prix considérablement plus élevé que si elle pouvait payer celui-ci immédiatement. Et le cycle continue... C’est là que les micro crédits peuvent faire la différence. L’obtention d’un prêt de six dollars seulement a permis à de nombreux entrepreneurs qui ne fonctionnent pas parce qu’ils ne dovent du travail que pour la durée du programme.

Les bénéficiaires d’assistance sociale doivent trouver chaque mois qu’ils font les démarches nécessaires pour se trouver un bouloten remplissant quelques formulaires de demande d’emploi pour lesquels ils n’auront pas de réponses. Quand demande-t’on à ces personnes si elles n’auraient pas eu une petite idée de génie qui aurait le potentiel de devenir une microentreprise? Il suffit parfois d’un prêt pour l’achat d’un ordinateur pour créer une entreprise tout à fait lucrative. Le taux de chômage se maintient à un niveau élevé depuis trop longtemps au Canada. La solution se trouve peut-être dans l’harmonisation des intérêts des Canadiens et ceux de leurs institutions financières. Si l’on tient compte du fait qu’une organisation comme Calmeadow voit la totalité de ses prêts remboursés dans 98% des cas, il est possible de conclure que cette harmonisation n’aurait pas la capacité difficile à trouver.

**Pros FRY Conference**


Glendon College’s Political Science, Canadian Studies and Student Association in International Studies are pleased to invite you to a lecture by Professor Earl Fry, 1995-95 Bissett Fulbright Professor in Canadian Studies, on “Challenges Facing NAFTA: Culture and Other Issues”. The lecture will take place on Tuesday, March 12 at 4:30 P.M. in the Senior Common Room (third floor). All welcome.


**Students do it, professors do it, even lawyers and doctors do it. Yes, they do, you would be considered part of the small minority of society labeled as misfits, rebels and hippies. But today it has become acceptable, even mainstream, to partake of this somewhat controversial practice. What are we talking about here? Smoking marijuana.

Part of the reason why smoking marijuana, (i.e., weed, cannabis, ganja, etc.) is becoming more conventional is because some of the myths that were prevalent years ago about the drug are now being dispelled.

**Myth #1: Marijuana causes brain damage. False. Maybe it's because many people lump together "hard" drugs like cocaine, heroin and even alcohol, which cause serious body damage, with "soft" drugs like marijuana, which causes minimal to no damage to the body or brain, that makes them skeptical.

Recent studies have found that there is no evidence of brain damage among marijuana users. The American Medical Association came out in 1977 in favour of de-criminalizing marijuana after two of their studies showed no evidence of brain damage, even among heavy marijuana users.

**Myth #2: Marijuana is a "gateway" drug. False. "Gateway" drugs are those that lead users to use harder drugs. Actually, marijuana does the exact opposite. In states, and even countries (Holland) that have decriminalized marijuana, hard drug use has decreased. In states and countries that hold a hard, criminal stance on marijuana, hard drug use has increased. Consequently, we can see that marijuana is a substitute for heroin, cocaine and alcohol and other hard drugs.

**Myth #3: Marijuana impairs short-term memory. True. Marijuana impairs short-term memory like alcohol impairs body coordination. But these effects only last as long as one is intoxicated. The effect is not permanent; if it was, we'd have a lot of forgetful people around today.

**Myth #4: Marijuana lingers in the body long after one has smoked it. True. Marijuana is fat soluble, like some vitamins. This is why you hear of people making weed brownsies or peanut butter cookies with pot. The oil in the nuts readily absorbs the fat soluble cannabinoids found in marijuana, creating a 'high,' but "long." As mentioned above, some vitamins, Vitamin A, are also fat soluble and remain in the body for a long time. Cannabinoids in the body do not cause harmful effects.

**Myth #5: No one has ever died of a marijuana overdose. True. To claim that one can get addicted to marijuana just as one can get addicted to cocaine, heroin, or alcohol. But the adverse has been proven: because of the substance found in marijuana, you have to smoke less to get high!

The primary substance in marijuana is THC, tetrahydrocannabinol, on which the body places a natural limit. Dopamine, a neurotransmitter in the brain, activates the twitch in the brain that produces pleasurable feelings. Because the brain is programmed to maximize the amount of dopamine in the brain and because THC can alter the brain to get the same dopamine and alcohol all affect dopamine production, the consequences of too much of the "hard" drugs is addiction.

Marijuana, on the other hand, does not effect dopamine production. Marijuana affects the function of the cerebral cortex, which die of a marijuana overdose, you need to smoke 40,000 times as much marijuana as it takes to get stoned; with a 1-40,000 ratio. For alcohol, the lethal limit ratio varies from 1:1 to 1:10 which means that one needs to drink only 4 to 10 times as much alcohol as they would drink just to get intoxicated. It is easy to see how many people can die from an alcohol overdose while hardly anyone has died from marijuana.

**The response to marijuana use should be a public health stance, not one of moral wrong-doing.

---

**What Every Canadian Should Know About Bill C-7

"Bill C-7 will result in a significant increase in rates of incarceration and in lengths of sentences, and will place additional stressors on an already overburdened criminal justice system."

---

As John Travolta best explains it in "Pulp Fiction": "[in Amsterdam] A joint is a legal, 100% legal. You can just walk into a restaurant, roll a joint, and start puffin' away.

Unfortunately, the Canadian government is forsaking its progressive European roots and yielding to its regressive American counterparts when it comes to marijuana legislation.

On October 30, 1995, when the country was focused on the reference, Bill C-7 was slipped through Parliament and became law. Bill C-7 had been debated during the summer session but received too much opposition so the issue was postponed until the referendum to ensure the easy passage of the bill. Oct. 30 was also the day the Bloc Québécois boycotted Parliament, so the official opposition was not included in the debate on Bill C-7.

What is Bill C-7? It is the Controlled Drug and Substances Act that will allow for an increase in police using a search and seizure powers in addition to marijuana; it will increase the number of marijuana users charged with trafficking and put in the criminal justice system to allow for more trafficking charges to be laid; and it will prohibit all medical use of mari­juana.

The media and government has promoted Bill C-7 as a progressive, up-to-date piece of legislation, but in reality, the government has imposed a sort of moral stand­ard on marijuana use and they see criminal sanctions as the only way to stop this horrible evil. The approach the government should have taken, according to London MP Sue Barnes, is one of "pragmatic re­formation". The response to marijuana use should be a public health stance, not one of moral wrong-doing. The government should only impose drug laws that reduce the harm caused by those who take drugs and maintain the stimulant effects of the drug. This is accomplished by setting priorities: police place higher priority on serious offenses traffick­ing rather than on minimal ones (smoking).

As John Travolta best explains it in "Pulp Fiction": "[in Amsterdam] A joint is a legal, 100% legal. You can just walk into a restaurant, roll a joint, and start puffin' away.

Unfortunately, the Canadian government is forsaking its progressive European roots and yielding to its regressive American counterparts when it comes to marijuana legislation.

On October 30, 1995, when the country was focused on the reference, Bill C-7 was slipped through Parliament and became law. Bill C-7 had been debated during the summer session but received too much opposition so the issue was postponed until the referendum to ensure the easy passage of the bill. Oct. 30 was also the day the Bloc Québécois boycotted Parliament, so the official opposition was not included in the debate on Bill C-7.

What is Bill C-7? It is the Controlled Drug and Substances Act that will allow for an increase in police using a search and seizure powers in addition to marijuana; it will increase the number of marijuana users charged with trafficking and put in the criminal justice system to allow for more trafficking charges to be laid; and it will prohibit all medical use of mar­juana.

The media and government has promoted Bill C-7 as a progressive, up-to-date piece of legislation, but in reality, the government has imposed a sort of moral stand­ard on marijuana use and they see criminal sanctions as the only way to stop this horrible evil. The approach the government should have taken, according to London MP Sue Barnes, is one of "pragmatic re­formation". The response to marijuana use should be a public health stance, not one of moral wrong-doing. The government should only impose drug laws that reduce the harm caused by those who take drugs and maintain the stimulant effects of the drug. This is accomplished by setting priorities: police place higher priority on serious offenses traffick­ing rather than on minimal ones (smoking).

As John Travolta best explains it in "Pulp Fiction": "[in Amsterdam] A joint is a legal, 100% legal. You can just walk into a restaurant, roll a joint, and start puffin' away.

Unfortunately, the Canadian government is forsaking its progressive European roots and yielding to its regressive American counterparts when it comes to marijuana legislation.

On October 30, 1995, when the country was focused on the reference, Bill C-7 was slipped through Parliament and became law. Bill C-7 had been debated during the summer session but received too much opposition so the issue was postponed until the referendum to ensure the easy passage of the bill. Oct. 30 was also the day the Bloc Québécois boycotted Parliament, so the official opposition was not included in the debate on Bill C-7.

What is Bill C-7? It is the Controlled Drug and Substances Act that will allow for an increase in police using a search and seizure powers in addition to marijuana; it will increase the number of marijuana users charged with trafficking and put in the criminal justice system to allow for more trafficking charges to be laid; and it will prohibit all medical use of mari­juana.

The media and government has promoted Bill C-7 as a progressive, up-to-date piece of legislation, but in reality, the government has imposed a sort of moral stand­ard on marijuana use and they see criminal sanctions as the only way to stop this horrible evil. The approach the government should have taken, according to London MP Sue Barnes, is one of "pragmatic re­formation". The response to marijuana use should be a public health stance, not one of moral wrong-doing. The government should only impose drug laws that reduce the harm caused by those who take drugs and maintain the stimulant effects of the drug. This is accomplished by setting priorities: police place higher priority on serious offenses traffick­ing rather than on minimal ones (smoking).
Gutsonic - a Canadian Music Week Profile

Toronto heavies Gutsonic are true to their tag, delivering a uniquely magnetic sound that rocks from the entrails, but is difficult to pigeon-hole. The dynamic five-piece openly borrows the patron ethos of classic metal, hardrock, and industrial. These are then welded with the individual influences and innovations of its members, resulting in the distinctive yet indescribable Gutsonic soundscape. Essentially the band represents a seductive mix of eclectic samplings from the more adventurous-class metal veins.

"I couldn't give you one perfect adjective that would cover everything. Our sound changes from song to song," points out guitarist Jim Sproule.

The Gutsonic bio-sheet leans on the pompous, as most do, claiming that the band boasts "...far above average musical prowess, intelligence of lyric and three voices capable of fronting any band." In this case, the statement isn't just proportional hype. Rather, it is a fact that the band is comprised of skilled and creative individuals, operating as a collective. Stuart Pratt serves as the band's undaunted skinnman, while Mike Gregory maintains a liddo-driven grist that hypnotizes each musician composes their own part for each track. Writing duties are juggled agreeably between founding members Rick Tyrell and Jim Sproule, along with recently acquired frontman Andrew Saager. The one thread of continuity that spins through the work of the three men who pen the bulk of Gutsonic's material is channeled aggression. However each writer has a distinct tone and objective.

"Jim is big on topics of personal freedom and individuality. He's quick to point a finger at the system. big brother. etc. He wields his cutting, dark humour as a weapon and a warning", observes guitarist Tyrell. "Jim is more of an observer of people and a story-teller who uses blunt rhymes and images in an autobiographical way. Andrew is really introspective and searching; constantly probing the mysterious elements of others' feelings and actions. He's less rhyme-conscious and more into the flow of words and an intent that can be interpreted on many different levels", notes Tyrell. "Jim and Andrew can be pretty jaded and cynical, but Andrew has a lot of hope and that balances things out. We alternate a lot of people, but those who understand us do seem blown away, and we're grateful to the adventurous music fan."

Gutsonic is a very tight unit. Honoured commitment paired with the contributions of all concerned translate into seamless tracks that blend creatively-focused defiance with genuine ability. The one signature that the careful listener can identify as being pure Gutsonic is the band's tendency to make dramatic groove changes. Somehow, they manage to switch directions completely without losing anything. In fact, their twist of clash and conflict is what works best in their wailing anthems. "We use equal parts precision and abandon; unusual and ugly chord structures with melodic choruses and harmonies", explains Tyrell. "Shock value is important. We combine flavors and time signatures that shouldn't blend, and still come up with a crowd-pleasing result. We strive on pounding rhythms, dissonant guitars, and multiple harmonies to get our songs across."

Another significant detail that further distinguishes Gutsonic as an atypical metal-band is that they're not prone to self-indulgence. "There are minimal guitar solos, because, unless it adds to the song, it simply isn't worth playing," Tyrell states bluntly. This isn't to suggest that the band doesn't enjoy the live context. Actually, Gutsonic has an insatiable desire to play live, and they've had no shortage of gigs. "No gig too stupid is our motto", says Sproule, kiddling on the square. "That's the point of this whole adventure, to play." Sproule adds, "But, of course, this city can get ticked off pretty fast, so we don't want to over-expose ourselves. Toronto tends to eat its own. Who knows, we might have to leave it make it here."

Recent singles signed to indie label San Records, who have set-up an international distribution deal for them, Gutsonic doesn't necessarily have to count on Toronto-centrism to make an ascension in the metal arena. "Our producer Zack Werner understands our weirdness and emphasized it in the studio. Dee Long, our engineer/mixer also got off on our existing fucknoodliness", beams Tyrell. "They were great and we're all really happy with the result." Closet optimist Sproule adds, "The more I listen to it, the better I feel. I'm really happy about what we've produced. At the risk of sounding arrogant, I honestly believe that we've created an excellent first album." The debut CD now available in stores.

There's a little film that might, through some miracle of marketing or overproduction, be falling down at the Carlton Cinemas by the time you read this. It is a film that deserves far broader exposure than it will ever get. Based on a short story by New York New Beat writer Jim Carroll (Basketball Diaries), it was made here in Toronto for much less than it takes to record a fart in Hollywood. The director is one John L'Ecuyer, an ex-Montrealer who came to town a few years ago to study film at Ryerson. Watching this flick, you feel you are experiencing one of your own frigid, over-cast hangover days in autumn, the kind of day when you wake up late and only feel capable of dealing with a cup of coffee and the paper. Instead, secondly deals a strong hand and you get sucked into a situation with an old friend who's more messed up than you are. Before you know it, thanks to the effort of trying to help him out, you're seeing the world in his terms. Such is the fragility and relative immaturity of human existence and relationships. And essentially, that's what Curtis's Charm is about, if you need the comfort of a thematic description.

But although Curtis's Charm is ostensibly a buddy flick, that superficial classification doesn't begin to explain how it is that two days after leaving the theatre, images and scenes from the movie linger like a pungent aftershave. For example, the instantly identifiable appearance of Curtis's fixed, spooked stare quickly becomes like a revelation that stays with you; it's more than the mere impression of a blandly addicted burnout: it's the kind of inward gaze of a shamman or mystic, someone who doesn't belong to the popular socio-economic structure based on getting and beguiling that most of us understand as the aim and goal of life. If you're at all disillusioned to enjoy so-called "offbeat" films, preferring cookie cutter plot-lines coupled with predictable resolutions, then stay away. But if you enjoy something more literate, something with the fuzzy facing of realism, then Curtis's Charm is worth taking in. With that in mind, I'm not going to rattle on about what is worthwhile about this film. Fundamentally, art is subjective. The main job of the critic as someone once said is to entice the artist for not doing what s/he would have done. So forget what I've said. Just take a look, see this thing and decide for yourself. If you go, make it the afternoon showing and it's half price. That is, if it's still playing.

Curtis's Charm stars Callum Keith Rennie as Jim, and Maurice Dean Win as Curtis.
Dawn Palin

STRONGER TOGETHER

After months of planning, the African Caribbean Club (ACC) revealed its annual fundraiser and Culture show, "Stronger Together" in the Cafeteria last Friday. This bilingual production featured high calibre performances by Glendon students and alumni, as well as guests from outside the college community.

Despite the event starting an hour late and little publicity, an estimated 100 persons were in attendance. What followed was 2 1/2 hours of poetry, song, dance (from Southeast Asian to Meringue), drama and fashion, all tribute to a common theme, that unity equals strength. As the Masters of ceremony explained at the beginning of the evening, this includes everyone from the community, whatever their ethnic origin, and certainly, they were not joking. While the show was hosted by the ACC, many other members of Glendon organizations were on hand to spectate, perform or help put the show on. These included the Southeast Asian and Latin American clubs (who performed) and both the Audio Visual Department and Theatre Glendon who helped the club stage the fundraiser. As French MC Aimé Makana said in reference to the diverse culture and language represented, "...tout le monde est bienvenue..."

The club also invited students, known as the "Soul Sisters", from a local high school to perform in the show. These young women, involved in the French immersion program at Loretto Abbey S.S., were brought to Glendon for the first time and appeared in three high-energy acts throughout the night. In light of the current enrollment crisis at the college, organizers believe that their event will help foster awareness of Glendon throughout the Greater Toronto Area. Event director for the third year in a row, Marc Semprie referred to the event as being "something positive for the Glendon community". Semprie, who according to ACC Vice President/Cultural Affairs Deborah Senior was the main force behind the project, admitted that the lack of publicity was a low point but was made up for by the support from the club and the Glendon community.

If your place of ordinary residence is in the federal riding of Lac-Saint-Jean, Papineau-Saint-Michel or Saint-Laurent-Cartierville in Québec, Humber-St. Barbe-Baie Verte or Labrador, Newfoundland or Etobicoke North in Ontario, you may have the right to vote on Monday, March 25, 1996, the day a federal by-election will be held in each of these six ridings. To be eligible to vote, you must be a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age on Monday, March 25.

If you will be unable to vote on Election Day, Monday, March 25, or during the Advance Polls, on Saturday, Monday or Tuesday March 16, 18 and 19, you can vote by Special Ballot either in person at the Office of the Returning Officer of one of the above ridings or by mail.

Pick up a copy of the registration form entitled "Voting by Canadians Away from their Ridings" at your Student Association or Registrar's Office. Or call the toll-free number below.

1-800-INFO-VOTE
(1-800-463-6888)
1-800-361-8935
http://www.elections.ca
COMMUNION

Let's grow a new religion,
You and I:
Imagine
Heaven across the sky-
Impale our carcasses to trees;
We could paint our guilt like roadsigns.
Wear it round our necks like wisdom or a theft;
Walk on water hand in hand,
Commune with angels
Made electric by our sins.
We'd be eternal in heaven,
Immortalized by pens.

I wonder
Could we ever tune our ears,
Write our stories in ligatures and in heat
Then throwaway, collapse in a pin,
Impose upon our conceptions
The simplicity of gravity
And see.

Marcos R. Benedites,
February, 1996

MATOL

On the kitchen pass-through
And one tablespoon short of empty
The scent of summer
Stands
Sequestered in a bottle
A medicinal complex
And herbal tincture
More in taste
At faces winced by a spoonful
The missile-shaped bottle of Matol.
An exercise of generosity
Sparing for those
While living for others
To forecast our fate
To store our fate
Toiling over past flames as bright
While short-wave sides crackled and dashed.
My man
Tired from one day execrating
Hoisting sails
And pitching tents
Would wait
For his supper
Prepared nightly by the left hands of a tame wood nymph.

August has gone
But the missile-shaped bottle of Matol-
One tablespoon short of empty
Serves daily the memory
Of...